RECORDATION IN 2 2/323-I FILED

ALVORD AND ALVORD

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March 8, 2002

ELLSWORTH C ALVORD (1964)

ELIAS C. ALVORD (1942)

MAR 0 8 '02

4-20 PM

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

OF COUNSEL URBAN A. LESTER

Mr. Vernon A. Williams Secretary Surface Transportation Board Washington, D.C. 20423

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed for recordation pursuant to the provisions of 49 U.S.C. Section 11301(a) are three (3) copies of a Release of Lien and Security Interest, dated as of February 27, 2002 a secondary document as defined in the Board's Rules for the Recordation of Documents.

The enclosed document relates to the documents previously filed with the Board under Recordation Number 21323.

The name and address of the party to the enclosed document are:

Secured Party:

Wells Fargo Equipment

Finance, Inc.

(successor to

Charter Financial, Inc.)

530 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10036

[Debtor:

Southern Illinois Railcar Company]

505 Buckeye Drive Troy, IL 62294

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Mr. Vernon A. Williams March 8, 2002 Page Two

A description of the railroad equipment covered by the enclosed document is:

140 covered hopper railcars ERCX 004400 - ERCX 004539

A short summary of the document to appear in the index follows:

Release of Lien and Security Interest

Also enclosed is a check in the amount of \$28.00 payable to the order of the Surface Transportation Board covering the required recordation fee.

Kindly return stamped copies of the enclosed document to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Alvord

RWA/anr Enclosures

RECORDATION NO. 21323-I

RELEASE OF LIEN AND SECURITY INTEREST

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

WHEREAS, CHARTER FINANCIAL, INC. ("Charter") has a lien on and security interest in the railcars identified on Exhibit A hereto (the "Railcars") by virtue of the filings described in Exhibit B hereto (the "Filings") previously made by Charter with the Surface Transportation Board pursuant to the provisions of 49 U.S.C. Section 11301(b) and the regulations thereunder (the "Recordation Procedures");

WHEREAS, WELLS FARGO EQUIPMENT FINANCE, INC. ("Wells Fargo") is the successor by merger to Charter (as such successor, the "Secured Party") and is authorized to execute and deliver this Release of Lien and Security Interest in the name of and on behalf of Charter and to cause the same to be filed with the Surface Transportation Board in accordance with the Recordation Procedures; and

WHEREAS, SOUTHERN ILLINOIS RAILCAR COMPANY ("SIRC"), the debtor described in the Filings, has requested that the Secured Party release its lien on and security interest in the Railcars;

NOW THEREFORE, the Secured Party does hereby confirm that (i) it no longer claims any lien on or security interest in any of the Railcars or any leases or proceeds thereof, (ii) it terminates, releases and discharges its lien and security interest in the Railcars and any leases or proceeds thereof, and (iii) it acknowledges and confirms that each of the Filings shall be of no further force or effect and each shall be terminated and released. This is a release of lien on collateral only and no release is granted to SIRC of its obligations to Charter or the Secured Party under any of the loan or other agreements previously entered into between SIRC and Charter or the Secured Party, and all such obligations shall remain enforceable against SIRC.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Secured Party has caused this Release of Lien and Security Interest to be executed on and as of the 27th day of February, 2002.

CHARTER FINANCIAL, INC.

By: WELLS FARGO EQUIPMENT FINANCE, INC

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Title: 5

County of Nature SS

On this 27th day of February, 2002, before me personally appeared Ronald N. Patraule to me personally known, who being by me duly sworn, said that he/she is a Wells Fargo Equipment Finance, Inc., that said instrument was signed on such date on behalf of said corporation by authority of its Board of Directors, and he/she acknowledged that the execution of the foregoing instrument was the free act and deed of said corporation.

[Notarial Seal]

Notary Public

My Commission expires:

Notary Public, State of New York
No. 31-4955650
Qualified in Westchester County
Commission Expires September 5 12003

EXHIBIT A

RAILCARS

One hundred and forty (140) covered hopper railcars bearing road numbers and marks as follows:

ERCX 004400 through ERCX 004539, inclusive.

EXHIBIT B

FILINGS

Defined terms:

Charter:

Charter Financial, Inc.

SIRC:

Southern Illinois Railcar Company

- Memorandum of Progress Payment Loan Agreement and Security Agreement dated as of March 30, 1998 between SIRC and Charter, as filed pursuant to the Recordation Procedures on April 8, 1998 and assigned recordation number 21323
- Memorandum of Collateral Assignment of Rights under Railcar Lease Agreement dated as of March 30, 1998 between SIRC and Charter, as filed pursuant to the Recordation Procedures on April 8, 1998 and assigned recordation number 21323 – A.
- Memorandum of Collateral Assignment of Rights under Railcar Lease Agreement dated as of March 30, 1998 between SIRC and Charter, as filed pursuant to the Recordation Procedures on April 8, 1998 and assigned recordation number 21323 – B.
- Memorandum of Progress Payment Loan Agreement and Security Agreement dated as of March 30, 1998 between SIRC and Charter, as filed pursuant to the Recordation Procedures on May 1, 1998 and assigned recordation number 21323 – E.
- Memorandum of Collateral Assignment of Rights under Railcar Lease Agreement dated as of March 30, 1998 between SIRC and Charter, as filed pursuant to the Recordation Procedures on May 1, 1998 and assigned recordation number 21323 – D.
- Memorandum of Collateral Assignment of Rights under Railcar Lease Agreement dated as of March 30, 1998 between SIRC and Charter, as filed pursuant to the Recordation Procedures on May 1, 1998 and assigned recordation number 21323 – C.
- Memorandum of Loan and Security Agreement dated as of May 26, 1998 between SIRC and Charter, as filed pursuant to the Recordation Procedures on June 1, 1998 and assigned recordation number 21323 – F.
- Memorandum of Collateral Assignment of Rights under Railcar Lease Agreement dated as of May 26, 1998 between SIRC and Charter, as filed pursuant to the Recordation Procedures on June 1, 1998 and assigned recordation number 21323 – G.
- Memorandum of Collateral Assignment of Rights under Railcar Lease Agreement dated as of May 26, 1998 between SIRC and Charter, as filed pursuant to the Recordation Procedures on June 1, 1998 and assigned recordation number 21323 – H.